

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) In a distributed system having a first node coupled to a first output device and a second node coupled to a second output device, a method of processing low resolution image object included in an associated high resolution image object file at the first node so as to provide on-demand rasterization appropriate for the second output device, comprising:

 associating a state information file to the high resolution image object file whereby the state information file comprises an edit list having an embedded edit list and an external edit list wherein the external list comprises links to a plurality of assets that may be embedded in the resulting low resolution image object;

 forwarding the low resolution image object and the associated state information file to the second node;

 appropriately rasterizing the low resolution image object based upon the second output device as needed; and

 outputting the appropriately rasterized image object at the second output device.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the state information file includes an edit list, and wherein the high resolution image object file includes a digital negative associated with the image object.

3. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the appropriately rasterized image object is a composite image.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 3, further comprising:
determining whether the embedded edit list is populated with an at least one embedded edit list element;

if it is determined that the edit list is populated with the at least one embedded edit list element, then

retrieving the at least one embedded edit list element included in the embedded edit list; and

retrieving the digital negative.

5. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 3, further comprising:

determining whether the external edit list is populated with an at least one external edit list element;

if it is determined that the edit list is populated with the at least one external edit list element, then

locating the external edit list based upon an external edit list pointer; and

retrieving the at least one external edit list element included in the external edit list.

6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the rasterizing comprises:

determining a resolution appropriate to the second output device based upon the retrieved edit list element; and

outputting the rasterized digital image.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the rasterizing comprises:

determining a resolution appropriate to the second output device based upon the retrieved external edit list element; and
outputting the rasterized digital image.

8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the image object includes a plurality of digital negatives.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the high resolution image object file includes a high resolution image and wherein the digital image is re-rasterized to form a lower resolution image as required by the second output device.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the edit list includes instructions describing how the digital image is to be re-rasterized.

11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the forwarding comprises:
wirelessly transmitting the image object and the associated state information file to the second node from the first node.

12. (Original) A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the first node is coupled to the second node by way of a server node that directs the transmitting.

13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first output device is selected from a group comprising: a printer, a digital video camera, a digital still camera, a TV monitor, a low resolution LCD screen, TV.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the second output device is selected from a group comprising: a printer, a digital video camera, a digital still camera, a TV monitor, a low resolution LCD screen, TV.

15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first node is connected to a first input device and wherein the second node is connected to a second input device, wherein the first and the second input devices are each capable of modifying an associated image object.

16. (Currently Amended) In a distributed system having a first node coupled to a first output device and a second node coupled to a second output device, an apparatus for processing a low resolution image object included in an associated high resolution image object file at the first node so as to provide on-demand rasterization appropriate for the second output device, comprising:

a means for associating a state information file to the high resolution image object file whereby the state information file comprises an edit list having an embedded edit list and an external edit list wherein the external edit list comprises links to a plurality of multimedia assets that may be embedded in the resulting low resolution image object;

a means for forwarding the low resolution image object and the associated state information file to the second node;

a means for appropriately rasterizing the low resolution image object based upon the second output device as needed; and

a means for outputting the appropriately rasterized image object at the second output device.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the state information file includes an edit list, and wherein the high resolution image object file includes a digital negative associated with the image object.

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the appropriately rasterized image object is a composite image

19. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 18, further comprising:

a means for determining whether the embedded edit list is populated with an at least one embedded edit list element;

if it is determined that the edit list is populated with the at least one embedded edit list element, then

a means for retrieving the at least one embedded edit list element included in the embedded edit list; and

a means for retrieving the digital negative.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 18, further comprising:

- a means for determining whether the external edit list is populated with an at least one external edit list element;

- if it is determined that the edit list is populated with the at least one external edit list element, then

- a means for locating the external edit list based upon an external edit list pointer, and

- a means for retrieving the at least one external edit list element included in the external edit list.

21. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 19, wherein the rasterizing comprises:

- a means for determining a resolution appropriate to the second output device based upon the retrieved edit list element; and

- a means for outputting the rasterized digital image.

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the rasterizing comprises:

- a means for determining a resolution appropriate to the second output device based upon the retrieved external edit list element; and

- a means for outputting the rasterized digital image.

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the high resolution image object file includes a plurality of digital negatives.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the high resolution image object file includes a high resolution image and wherein the rasterized digital image is a lower resolution image as required by the second output device.

25. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein the edit list includes instructions describing how the digital image is to be re-rasterized.

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein the forwarding comprises:

a means for wirelessly transmitting the low resolution image object and the associated state information file to the second node from the first node.

27. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 26, wherein the first node is coupled to the second node by way of a server node that directs the transmitting.

28. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 4 wherein some user selected portion of the at least one embedded edit list elements are not displayed in the appropriately rasterized image object.

29. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 5 wherein some user selected portion of the at least one external edit list elements are not displayed in the appropriately rasterized image object.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 5 wherein the at least one external edit list elements is a multimedia asset.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 30 wherein the multimedia asset is selected from a digitized group comprising: still images, video images, and vector artwork.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 19 wherein some user selected portion of the at least one embedded edit list elements are not displayed in the appropriately rasterized image object.

33. (Previously Presented): A method as recited in claim 20 wherein some user selected portion of the at least one external edit list elements are not displayed in the appropriately rasterized image object.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 20 wherein the at least one external edit list elements is a multimedia asset.

35. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 34 wherein the multimedia asset is selected from a digitized group comprising: still images, video images, and vector artwork.